

**Regional Partnership Councils  
New and Revised Strategies for SFY10  
November 30, 2009**

The following Regional Partnership Councils are submitting for consideration new and revised strategies for SFY10. A cover letter and supporting documentation is included in the board book for each Regional Council submitting a new or revised strategy. The strategies have been reviewed by FTF staff leadership and are recommended for Board approval.

**Regional Councils seeking approval to continue child care scholarships in SFY10**

- South Phoenix Regional Council is requesting approval to continue child care scholarships in the amount of \$1 million through June 30, 2010 for approximately 200 to 250 children.
- Central Phoenix Regional Council is requesting approval to continue child care scholarships in the amount of \$1.5 million through June 30, 2010 for approximately 400 children.
- Northeast Maricopa Regional Council is requesting approval to continue child care scholarships for Quality First programs in the amount of \$263,100 through June 30, 2010 and continue in SFY11. Approximately 69-76 children will be served through the scholarship program in SFY10.

**Regional Councils presenting new strategies to implement in SFY10**

- The LaPaz Mohave Regional Council is requesting approval to implement two new strategies in SFY2010, prekindergarten expansion and child care health consultation. The Regional Council has continued to review their 2010 funding plan and determining where gaps exist. The Regional Council has identified the need to expand the number of children with pre-k experiences and is requesting approval to implement a pre-k strategy in the amount of \$300,000 in partnership with school districts in communities where there is no child care or Headstart programming available for preschool aged children. Approximately 60 children will be served in SFY10 through this strategy. The Regional Council is also seeking approval to implement the statewide child care health consultation model in their region to programs not participating in Quality First. More than 50 percent of the child care centers in the region would have access to a health consultant with the implementation of this strategy. The Regional Council is submitting their 2011 funding plan for approval at the December meeting and both of these strategies are included in the funding plan for continuation.

**Regional Councils presenting revised SFY10 strategies**

- The South Phoenix Regional Council is requesting approval to conduct three studies in their region for the purposes of obtaining region specific data around children's health, oral health and home based child care in the amount of \$450,000. The Regional Council reviewed the proposed research studies identified by the evaluation division and has determined data obtained from these studies would significantly assist the Regional Council with their decision making and allocation of funding in the areas of health and

early care and education. Specifically, the Regional Council will partner with St. Lukes Health Initiatives to increase the sample size for the region on their statewide health survey, participate in the statewide child care study to be conducted by the University Consortium, and partner with the Department of Health to analyze the oral health data collected by the department.

- The Northwest Maricopa Regional Council is requesting approval to move funding in the amount of \$502,000 from their professional development for health professionals strategy to their preventative health strategy for the purpose of implementing an oral health strategy in the region. The Regional Council has determined that the implementation of an oral health strategy is a priority for children.
- The LaPaz Mohave Regional Council is requesting approval to expand Quality First in their region. The proposed increase would bring the total number of regionally-funded slots from five to 10 in SFY10.
- The San Carlos Apache Regional Council is requesting approval to implement their collaborative and community awareness strategies in 2010 in the amount of \$11,000. The Regional Council has folded the community awareness strategy under their collaborative strategy. The collaborative will be charged with developing and maintaining an early childhood resource data base and providing information on programs and services to the community through various tactics. In addition the collaborative will establish a career recruitment campaign to increase the number of individuals pursuing early care and education and health professions.
- The Colorado River Indian Tribes Regional Council is requesting approval to increase the funding levels of two strategies in their 2010 funding plan. An increase in the amount of \$5,000 for the therapist stipend and incentives strategy is requested. In addition, an increase in the amount of \$2,109 for the early literacy enhancement is being submitted for board approval.
- The Cocopah Tribe Regional Council is requesting approval to increase the funding level of their comprehensive family support strategy by \$7,769. The increased funding will provide for professional development and training of the newly hired staff and travel that was not included in the grant agreement with the Tribe for FTF grantee meetings that will be held annually.



## FIRST THINGS FIRST

4000 North Central Avenue, Suite 800  
Phoenix, Arizona 85012  
Phone: 602.771.5100  
Fax: 602.274.7040  
[www.azftf.gov](http://www.azftf.gov)

Chair  
Robert Donofrio

Vice Chair  
James Washington

Member  
William Ellert  
Moises Gallegos  
Mauricio Martinez  
Patricia Merk  
Rosalind Polston  
Cindy Segotta-Jones  
Eva Marie Shivers  
Mary Thomson  
Vacant

November 20, 2009

Chairman Lynn and Members of the Board  
First Things First  
4000 N. Central Avenue, Suite 800  
Phoenix, AZ 85012

Dear Chairman Lynn and Members of the Board

On behalf of the South Phoenix Regional Partnership Council, we are requesting the utilization of current FY10 funding to continue funding emergency child care scholarships.

The South Phoenix Regional Council has met, considered, and approved the following change in current fiscal year (FY10) funding as approved by the Regional Council at their November 5, 2009 meeting. The Regional Council requests your consideration for approval of the following funding changes:

- \$1,000,000 to extend current emergency scholarship programming through June 30, 2010 (FY10).

### Background

After the initial implementation of the emergency child care scholarship program in the South Phoenix region, families have increasingly utilized this resource to offset the stressors they are experiencing due to job loss, state reductions in child care subsidy eligibility criteria, and other economic factors. The South Phoenix Regional Council, during several meetings held over the past few months, has had ongoing concern and support by parents and child care providers about continuing the scholarship. The Regional Council heard from over 30 providers, 20 parents and many community advocates. After a very comprehensive and exhaustive dialogue about the current crisis, data, and possible policy solutions, the Regional Council elected to extend current funding by \$1 million through June 30, 2010. This funding has been pulled from carry forward dollars as well as unobligated funds from other existing strategies.

Additionally, to ensure a more comprehensive approach to systematic challenges families are facing related to quality and access to early care and education, the South Phoenix Regional Council has constructed a new strategy to add to the FY11 funding plan. The Regional Council is currently seeking feedback on the newly created strategy from policy staff to ensure alignment with best practices and overall statewide strategic planning efforts related to Quality,

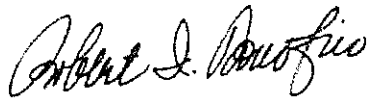
Access, and Affordability.

**Summary of Anticipated Outcomes and Impacts**

The additional support for children and families is expected to continue to help drive recruitment of centers into the Quality First improvement system by increasing the number of participating centers in the system. Additionally, parents will have additional child care choices, children will be less likely to be exposed to dangerous situations, and the overall basic family stability for children will be improved.

The South Phoenix Regional Partnership Council is pleased to offer this recommendation and is confident that the coordination with First Things First Statewide Quality & Access efforts will ensure the alignment of the newly developed strategy in the FY11 Funding Plan. Thank you for your consideration.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Robert J. Donofrio". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Robert" and last name "Donofrio" clearly distinguishable.

Dr. Robert Donofrio, Chair  
South Phoenix Regional Partnership Council



## FIRST THINGS FIRST

4000 North Central Avenue, Suite 800  
Phoenix, Arizona 85012  
Phone: 602.771.5046  
Fax: 602.274.7040  
[www.azfff.gov](http://www.azfff.gov)

Chair  
Judi Gottschalk

Vice Chair  
Theresa Gonzales

Members  
Juman Abujbara  
Randal Christensen  
Marilee Dal Pra  
Joyce Millard Hoie  
Giff Loda  
Marsha Porter  
Wesley Relf  
Ginger Ward  
Susan Wilkins

November 20, 2009

Chairman Lynn and Members of the Board  
First Things First  
4000 N. Central Avenue, Suite 800  
Phoenix, AZ 85012

RE: Central Phoenix Regional Partnership Council

Dear Chairman Lynn and Members of the Board,

On behalf of the Central Phoenix Regional Partnership Council, we are requesting the utilization of current FY10 funding to continue funding Emergency Scholarships.

The Central Phoenix Regional Partnership Council has met, considered, and approved the following change in current fiscal year (FY10) funding as approved by the council at their November 18, 2009 meeting. The Council requests your consideration for approval of the following funding changes:

- **\$1,500,000** to extend current emergency scholarship programming through June 30, 2010 (FY10).

### Background

After the initial implementation of the Emergency Scholarship program in the Central Phoenix region, families have increasingly utilized this resource to offset the stresses they are experiencing through job loss, state reductions in childcare subsidy eligibility criteria, and other economic factors. The Central Phoenix Regional Partnership Council, during several council meetings have had ongoing concern and support by parents and childcare providers about continuing scholarship through FY 11. The council heard from a number of providers, parents and many community advocates. After a very comprehensive and exhaustive dialogue about the current crisis, data, and possible policy solutions—elected to extend current funding by \$1,500,000 through June 30, 2010. Additionally, to ensure a more comprehensive approach to systematic challenges families are facing related to Quality & Access, the Central Phoenix Regional Partnership Council has constructed a new strategy to add to our FY11 Funding Plan. The council is currently seeking feedback on the newly created strategy from First Things First Policy staff to ensure alignment with best practices and overall statewide strategic planning efforts related to Quality & Access, and Affordability.

Central Phoenix Regional Partnership Council

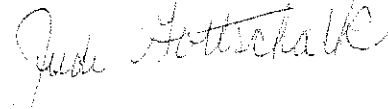
### **Summary of Anticipated Outcomes and Impacts**

The additional support for children and families is expected to continue to help drive recruitment of centers into the Quality First! improvement system, increasing the number of participating centers in the system. Additionally, parents will have additional childcare choices, children will be less likely to be exposed to dangerous situations, and the overall basic family stability for children will be improved.

The Central Phoenix Regional Partnership Council is pleased to offer this recommendation and is confident that the coordination with First Things First Statewide Quality & Access efforts will ensure the alignment of the newly developed strategy in the FY11 Funding Plan moving into the future.

Thank you for your consideration.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Judi Gottschalk". The ink is dark and the signature is fluid.

Judi Gottschalk



## FIRST THINGS FIRST

1921 South Alma School Road, Suite 1111  
Mesa, Arizona 85210  
Phone: 602.771.4988  
Fax: 480.755.2263  
[www.azftf.gov](http://www.azftf.gov)

Chair  
DeAnn Davies

Vice Chair  
Wendy Lyons

Members  
John Foreman  
Prabodh Hemmady  
Gretchen Jacobs  
Gary Loutzenheiser  
Bill Myhr  
Mary Permoda  
Stuart Turgel  
Patricia VanMaanen  
Dana Vela

**TO:** Arizona Early Childhood Development and Health Board  
**FROM:** Northeast Maricopa Regional Partnership Council  
**Date:** November 10, 2009  
**RE:** Revised 2010 Funding Plan: Child Care Family Scholarships

Attached for your review and consideration is a new strategy for SFY 2010 that was approved by the Northeast Maricopa Regional Partnership Council at their November 2009 meeting. This strategy will provide child care scholarships to families enrolled in Quality First centers. The Northeast Maricopa Regional Partnership Council has identified the impact the current economic downturn has had on the stability of families and the overall economic viability of the child care and early education system in the Region as a major concern. In response to this need, the Regional Council has developed a Child Care Family Scholarship Strategy that is designed to make quality child care services more affordable for families while stabilizing programs enrolled in Quality First. This strategy, which is proposed to begin in January 2010, will also be maintained for SFY2011. This program will provide scholarships to 69 - 76 children with approximately 4-5 scholarships per Quality First center. This program will serve only a small portion of families needing child care, but it is the hope of the Regional Council that this effort will assist with stabilizing enrollment in the Quality First centers to protect the investment made in these centers, while assisting families to maintain stability in their children's lives. The economic situation of the Region's child care centers will be reevaluated to determine if funding should continue after SFY2011.

The economic downturn has had a major and growing impact on the Region's child care system, especially those serving infants and toddlers. Department of Economic Security Child Care subsidy cuts have greatly impacted enrollment in child care centers in the Region as well as the affordability of care in the Region. Centers are reporting enrollment drops in excess of 20% within the last year due to families being unable to afford the cost of care. Many of the Region's centers were operating significantly below their capacity before the economic downturn and are operating at



## FIRST THINGS FIRST

substantial monthly deficits requiring staff layoffs, resulting in mixed age classes and other issues that impact quality of the care provided. Anecdotal reports show that many families are being forced to use multiple family and friends for child care which results in lack of consistency for the children. Another concern is the number of children being cared for by older siblings. Often those siblings are much too young to provide adequate care. This economic downturn has greatly impacted not only families, but the financial stability of the centers that made a commitment to quality by participating in the Quality First program.

The Regional Council unanimously approved using \$263,100 in FY2010 and \$526,200 in SFY2011 toward this strategy. This would come from unobligated money for FY2010 and continue funding through discretionary funding in the FY2011 funding plan.

We respectfully request approval of this new strategy to allow FTF staff and the Regional Council to quickly move forward to amend the current United Way Administrative contract to begin implementing this strategy in January 2010.

DeAnn Davies, Northeast Maricopa Regional Partnership Chair and Hazel Chandler, Regional Coordinator, will be present at the December Board meeting to present further information on this strategy and answer any questions from Board members.

*DeAnn Davies*  
Chair



## Northeast Maricopa Regional Partnership Council – SFY2010 Revision

### **Strategy #: 10**

#### **Strategy Name: Child Care Family Scholarships**

Provide scholarships to families enrolled in Quality First Centers.

The Northeast Maricopa Regional Partnership Council has identified the impact the current economic downturn has had on the stability of families and the overall economic viability of the child care and early education system in the Region as a major concern. When the initial Needs and Assets Report was completed, the number of centers that were operating below capacity was identified as a concern. The report found that many of the Region's centers were operating between 60 and 70% of capacity at that time. The impacts of the decrease in Department of Economic Security subsidies and the economic conditions have further impacted the enrollment in many centers. Estimates are that centers across Maricopa County have lost an additional 20% of their enrollment in the last year. This has resulted in teacher layoffs, combined age classrooms and other efforts to survive the economic downturn that impact the overall quality of the care provided. The Regional Council is committed to building a quality child care and early education system that supports the current regional resources in building a quality early care and education system. Ten centers and one home are currently participating in the Quality First program under First Things First statewide funding and the Regional Council added an additional six centers. In SFY2011, the Regional Council has committed to adding an additional five centers. To help stabilize centers that have made the commitment to quality through participating in the Quality First Program, the Regional Council will provide a limited number of scholarships to families attending each of these centers.

1. Scholarships are about providing continuity of care for children.
2. There are limited resources, therefore scholarships will only be provided to centers fully enrolled in Quality First and maintain active participation in meeting the goals of the Quality First improvement plan.
3. Programs that provide all-day, all-week, year-round services and, where possible, extended/evening hours should receive priority to meet the needs of working families.
4. Families that receive scholarships are to be prioritized if they are employed, actively seeking employment, or participating in training or school to compete better in the labor market.
5. Scholarships would be available for families with income less than 200% of poverty who are employed full time or attending school on a full time basis.
6. Scholarships will be targeted to serve the most vulnerable families/children, such as:
  - a. Children with Special Needs
  - b. Children in single parent families
  - c. Children birth through age three

## Northeast Maricopa Regional Partnership Council – SFY2010 Revision

- d. Children not already receiving assistance from another source (i.e., Head Start, Department of Economic Security, Early Childhood Block Grant, etc.)
7. Centers requesting to participate in the scholarship program must show they are currently serving families who would meet the above requirements for participation.
  8. Centers must maintain good standing at all times with Arizona Department of Health Services Licensure and the Quality First Program. Centers must become Quality Rated when the Quality Rating System is implemented and maintain a three or above at all times.
  9. Services must be provided in currently existing classrooms.

### Lead Goal:

FTF will increase availability and affordability of early care and education settings.  
FTF will improve access to quality early care and education programs and settings.

### Key Measures:

Current cost of early care and education for families as a proportion of the median income for a family of four.  
Total number of children enrolled and vacancies in regulated early care and education programs as a proportion of total population birth to age five.

### Target Population:

Families with children birth through five who meet the above criteria

	SFY 2010 July 1, 2009 – June 30, 2010	SFY 2011 July 1, 2010 - June 30, 2011	SFY 2012 July 1, 2011 - June 30, 2012
Proposed Service Numbers	69-76 children – Approximately 4- 5 children per center	69-76 children – Approximately 4-5 per children center	69-76 children – Approximately 4- 5 children per center (Need for funding will be re- evaluated as part of the SFY2012 funding plan)

### Performance Measures:

- Number of providers recruited/strategic target number
- Number providers receiving funding/number providers recruited

## Northeast Maricopa Regional Partnership Council – SFY2010 Revision

- Number of children served/proposed service number
- Cost to parents/proposed target number
- Number of parents and providers reporting satisfaction (minimum questions provided by FTF staff)/strategic target number

### SFY 2010 Expenditure Plan for Proposed Strategy

<b><i>Allocation for proposed strategy</i></b>	<b><i>\$ 263,100</i></b>
--	--------------------------

#### **Budget Justification:**

*Describe how the allocation for the strategy was determined, including characteristics unique to the region.*

It is anticipated that Valley of the Sun United Way would serve as administrative home for this program. \$13,100 or 5.24% of funding would provide administrative fees to the administrative home.

Projections are based on providing a \$550 per month (\$6,600 per year) per child for children three and above and \$600 (\$7,200 per year) per child for children birth through two. Parents are responsible for any remaining difference between this scholarship and the usual and customary charges for child care services in the center.

It is anticipated that this program would begin in January 2010 with a funding level for the remaining six months of the fiscal year of \$263,100. The council plans to continue funding for SFY 2011 maintaining the program at the same level for an additional year. The economic situation of the region's child care centers will be reevaluated to determine if funding should be continued beyond FY2011.



## FIRST THINGS FIRST

1979 McCulloch Boulevard, Suite 106  
Lake Havasu City, Arizona 86403  
Phone: 928.854.8732  
Fax: 928.854.8742  
www.azftf.gov

Chair  
William Allsbrooks

Vice Chair  
Lenore Knudtson

Members  
Alisa Burroughs  
Riley Frel  
Jose Garcia  
Terri Holloway  
Melissa Howell  
Betsy Lewis  
Nancy Mongeau  
Vijette Saarl  
Debra Weger

November 16, 2009

Dear Arizona Early Childhood Development and Health Board:

The La Paz/Mohave Regional Partnership Council is pleased to present our Pre-Kindergarten Expansion strategy for your consideration. The strategy is an addition to our original SFY 2010 Regional Funding Plan approved on December 2, 2008.

The La Paz/Mohave Regional Partnership Council and First Things First staff have worked diligently to develop the proposed strategy to expand access to early care and education programs in the region. The proposed strategy was unanimously approved by the Regional Council on October 22, 2009. If approved, it would support the creation or expansion of school district programs in the region to:

- Increase the number of early education slots in the region
- Enroll more children who may not otherwise have access to high quality preschool programs during the two years prior to their kindergarten entry
- Serve families at 200 percent or below the federal poverty level and/or those families who qualify for the free and reduced lunch program

The funding mechanism for this strategy would be government to government agreements direct with school districts. In order to ensure the expansion of current capacity occurs where children may most benefit, priority in district selection would be given to districts where there is currently no Head Start and no regulated child care available. The preference would be to create new slots (serve additional children) rather than to serve children already in existing programs for longer periods of time (all day expansion).

In order to build sustainability into the strategy, school districts would be required to match funds at a minimum of 20% of the total cost of services in the first year; 25% in the second year, and 30% in the third year.

The La Paz/Mohave Regional Partnership Council believes expanding access to Pre-Kindergarten programs through public school districts is an effective strategy to address the issue of access and affordability to early care and education in communities where known shortages exist. With this strategy, we hope more low-income children in the region will have access to high quality early care and education programs that will prepare them for greater success in school and life.

Sincerely,

Lenore Knudtson, Vice-Chair  
La Paz/Mohave Regional Partnership Council

LaPaz/Mohave Regional Partnership Council

### Strategy 1(d): Pre-Kindergarten Expansion

This is the third strategy of the La Paz/Mohave Regional Partnership Council focused on expanding access to quality early care and education programs. The La Paz/Mohave Regional Council previously allocated these funds to a cross-regional pilot study on access and affordability that was cancelled because other regions moved funding to emergency child care scholarships. Pre-Kindergarten Expansion is an affordability strategy that will compliment the other approved early care and education strategies in the Regional Funding Plan (Planning, Start-up and Quality Improvement Grants and Quality First Expansion) by providing grants to public school districts to increase the number of early childhood education slots for at-risk children ages 3-5. The proposed strategy will ensure more children in the region have access to high quality early care and education in order to increase school readiness.

Community stakeholders and parents in the region indicate a need to increase the availability of high quality early education classrooms to better prepare children for success in school. Other evidence also suggests a need to better support education among young children in the region. One assessment that is used frequently across Arizona schools – the Dynamic Indicators of Basic Early Literacy Skills (DIBELS) – shows that many children in the region may be behind in literacy acquisition when they enter Kindergarten. The DIBELS is used to identify children's reading skills upon entry to school and to measure their reading progress throughout the year. In 2007, an average of 25% of children entering kindergarten in Mohave and La Paz County School Districts met the DIBELS benchmark standards.

Third grade standardized assessments also suggest that children in the region lag behind their Arizona counterparts. The Spring 2007 Third Grade AIMS scores show that most La Paz/Mohave Region School Districts fall below other Arizona School Districts in reading, writing, and mathematics. While test scores in the elementary school years are influenced by many factors, these scores may in part be influenced by young children's school preparedness.

**La Paz/Mohave Spring 2007 AIMS DPA 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade Score Achievement  
Levels in Mathematics, Reading, and Writing**

School District	Mathematics				Reading				Writing			
	FFB	A	M	E	FFB	A	M	E	FFB	A	M	E
Mohave County												
Bullhead City Elementary	52	31	17	0	31	56	13	0	26	43	28	4
Colorado City Unified	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
Hackberry	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
Kingman Unified	35	20	40	5	26	58	16	0	15	35	50	0
Lake Havasu Unified	41	41	19	0	33	44	22	0	15	30	56	0
Littlefield Unified	24	24	52	0	14	57	29	0	10	14	71	5
Mohave Valley Elementary	21	47	32	0	11	58	32	0	16	21	53	11
Peach Springs Unified	39	50	11	0	17	78	6	0	22	22	56	0
Topock Elementary	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
La Paz County												
Parker Unified	17	17	67	0	8	75	17	0	8	50	42	0
Wenden Elementary	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
All Arizona Schools	9	17	54	20	6	23	59	13	5	13	66	16

Arizona Department of Education AIMS Spring 2007 Grade 03 Summary

FFB = Falls Far Below the Standard, A = Approaches the Standard, M = Meets the Standard, and E = Exceeds the Standard

As noted in the 2008 La Paz/Mohave Regional Needs and Assets Report, early childhood education programs can promote successful school readiness especially for low-income families. Research studies on early intervention programs for low-income children have found that participation in educational programs prior to kindergarten is related to improved school performance in the early years. Studies conducted of the Chicago Child-Parent Centers (CPC) program – a large scale, high quality, publicly funded half-day early care and education program that has been operating for over 30 years – found that the program had a range of meaningful outcomes, including:

- Advantages in reading achievement scores as late as age 14
- Lower likelihood of retention in grade by age 15
- Reduced use of special education through age 18
- Greater likelihood of high school completion by age 20.

The 2008 La Paz/Mohave Regional Needs and Assets Report also noted low use of fee-paying early care and education settings for the 0-5 population in the region. With only an estimated 1,675 children out of the more than 15,500 children age birth to five in the region in fee-paying child care, it appears that a large number families are not able to access existing early care and education programs. This could be due to a variety of factors including insufficient income to pay for quality child care, a preference for family, friend and neighbor care, and/or lack of awareness of existing programs.

This strategy would support the creation or expansion of public school district programs in the region to:

- Increase the number of early education slots
- Enroll more children who may not otherwise have access to high quality preschool programs during the two years prior to their kindergarten entry
- Serve families at 200 percent or below the federal poverty level and/or those families who qualify for the free and reduced lunch program

The funding mechanism for this strategy would be government to government agreements direct with school districts. In order to ensure the expansion of current capacity occurs where children may most benefit, priority in district selection would be given to districts where there is currently no Head Start and no regulated child care. The preference would be to create new slots (serve additional children) rather than to serve children already in existing programs for longer periods of time (all day expansion).

School districts would be required to match funds at a minimum of 20% of the total cost of services in the first year; 25% in the second year, and 30% in the third year.

**Goals:**

- FTF will increase availability and affordability of early care and education settings.
- FTF will improve access to quality early care and education programs and settings.

**Key Measures:**

- Current cost of early care and education for families as a proportion of the median income for a family of four.
- Total number of children enrolled and vacancies in regulated early care and education programs as a proportion of total population birth to age five.

**Target Population:** Low-income children ages 3-5 in the region.

Proposed Service Numbers	SFY2010 July 1, 2009 - June 30, 2010	SFY2011 July 1, 2010 – June 30, 2011	SFY2012 July 1, 2011 - June 30, 2012
	60	75	75
<b>Performance Measures SFYs 2010 – 2012</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Number of publicly-funded early childhood education slots in the region</li><li>• Percentage of low-income children attending quality early education programs in the region</li><li>• Number of children served/proposed service number</li><li>• Number children receiving part-time services/proposed service number</li><li>• Number of children receiving full-time services/proposed service number</li><li>• Cost to parents/proposed target number</li></ul>			
<b>How is this strategy building on the service network that currently exists?</b> <p>The proposed strategy will build on current early childhood education programs operating within public school districts.</p>			
<b>What are the opportunities for collaboration and alignment?</b> <p>Pre-Kindergarten programs could also apply to participate in Quality First and T.E.A.C.H.</p>			
<b>SFY2010 Expenditure Plan for Proposed Strategy</b>			
Population-based Allocation for strategy		\$ 300,000	
<b>Budget Justification:</b> <p>The National Association of Child Care Resource &amp; Referral Agencies (NACCRRRA) reports that preschool programs cost from \$3,794 per child in Mississippi to \$10,668 per child in Massachusetts. The average cost nationwide is \$6,582, which is slightly lower than the average Head Start fiscal year 2005 cost of \$7,287 per child. The National Institute for Early Education Research (NIEER) estimates the annual cost of providing quality preschool education is \$8,700 per child. This would cover the full costs of the programs; including facilities, administration, and support services. For estimation purposes, a cost of \$6,000 per child for full-year, full-day was assumed for this strategy based on the median per-day cost of \$21.00 for a preschooler in a licensed center in La Paz and Mohave Counties from the 2008 DES Market Rate Study.</p>			
<b>Sources:</b> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. The National Association of Child Care Resource &amp; Referral Agencies, 2007. We Can Do Better.</li><li>2. Average Head Start cost is reported on the Health and Human Services website at <a href="http://www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/hsb/research/2006.htm">http://www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/hsb/research/2006.htm</a></li><li>3. Cost of Preschool is reported on the National Institute for Early Education Research (NIEER) website at <a href="http://nieer.org/resources/facts/index.php?FastFactID=5">http://nieer.org/resources/facts/index.php?FastFactID=5</a></li><li>4. 2008 DES Market Rate Study is available online at <a href="https://egov.azdes.gov/CMS400Min/InternetFiles/Reports/pdf/cca_market_survey_08.pdf">https://egov.azdes.gov/CMS400Min/InternetFiles/Reports/pdf/cca_market_survey_08.pdf</a></li></ol>			



## FIRST THINGS FIRST

1979 McCulloch Boulevard, Suite 106  
Lake Havasu City, Arizona 86403  
Phone: 928.854.8732  
Fax: 928.854.8742  
[www.azftf.gov](http://www.azftf.gov)

November 16, 2009

Chair  
William Allsbrooks

Vice Chair  
Lenore Knudtson

Members  
Alisa Burroughs  
Riley Frei  
Jose Garcia  
Terri Holloway  
Melissa Howell  
Betsy Lewis  
Nancy Mongeau  
Vijette Saarl  
Debra Weger

Dear Arizona Early Childhood Development and Health Board:

The La Paz/Mohave Regional Partnership Council is pleased to present our Child Care Health Consultation strategy for your consideration. The strategy is an addition to our original SFY 2010 Regional Funding Plan approved on December 2, 2008.

The La Paz/Mohave Regional Partnership Council and First Things First staff have worked diligently to develop a strategy to complement our existing preventive health strategies (Court Teams for Maltreated Infants and Toddlers and Preventive Health Outreach and Screening). The proposed strategy was unanimously approved by the Regional Council on September 24, 2009. If approved, this strategy would support an additional Child Care Health Consultant to serve the La Paz/Mohave Region.

Child Care Health Consultants (CCHCs) are experts in child health available to support child care providers to assure that children in their care are safe, healthy and ready to succeed. CCHCs provide advice on the well being of a single child, classroom, home or center with the view toward giving child care staff the information and guidance they need to prevent and intervene appropriately. CCHCs provide a one-stop health resource through:

- Onsite and telephone guidance and consultation
- Staff training on health and safety best practices and requirements
- Nutrition and physical activities best practices including combating obesity
- Linkages and referrals to community resources
- Developing and providing information for parents

The proposed expansion would build on the infrastructure elements established by the FTF Board with *Quality First* and Child Care Health Consultation to improve the quality of early care and education in the La Paz/Mohave region. It would provide the financing for additional Child Care Health Consultants to support to centers and homes not participating in *Quality First*.

The La Paz/Mohave Regional Partnership Council believes Child Care Health Consultation is an effective strategy to address health and safety issues in early care and education settings. With this strategy, we hope child care providers will be better equipped to address health and safety issues common in early childhood settings and more children in the region will be connected with appropriate on-going, preventive health services.

Sincerely,

William Allsbrooks, Chair  
La Paz/Mohave Regional Partnership Council



## **Strategy #2d: Child Care Health Consultation**

Child care providers are entrusted with young children for hours every day. While providing early education services, they must also keep children safe and protected from injuries and potentially serious infectious diseases. Child care staff also work with parents to promote good social, emotional and physical health for children—all generally without benefit of medical expertise. Center staff may have to call multiple resources to answer health related questions.

Child Care Health Consultants (CCHCs) are experts in child health available to support child care providers to assure that children in their care are safe, healthy and ready to succeed. CCHCs provide advice on the well being of a single child, classroom, home or center with the view toward giving child care staff the information and guidance they need to prevent and intervene appropriately. CCHCs provide a one-stop health resource through:

- Onsite and telephone guidance and consultation
- Staff training on health and safety best practices and requirements
- Nutrition and physical activities best practices including combating obesity
- Linkages and referrals to community resources
- Developing and providing information for parents

CCHCs have specific training following the National Training Institute (NTI) Child Care Health Consultation curriculum. They are prepared to train child care staff to talk with families about health topics such as oral health, nutritional eating and weight control, developmental screening, and the value of physician well-child exams and immunizations.

Child Care Health Consultants support and improve children's health and safety in child care settings; improve the quality of interactions to support the social-emotional development of children; and increase early identification of developmental concerns. Results include:

- Reduction of hazards and risky practices in child care settings related to safe play, emergency preparedness, better nutrition and food safety, utilization of safe sleep practices, and reduction in risk of Sudden Infant Death Syndrome (SIDS).
- Reduction of infectious disease outbreaks, reduction of lost work time for parents, improved written health policies, increased preventive health care for children.

Child Care Health Consultants also provide phone consultation to unregulated providers and provide information about the process and benefits of becoming regulated. The Child Care Health Consultant, in addition to providing trainings in individual centers and homes, will provide community-based training that will be open to parents and unregulated child care providers.

In the La Paz/Mohave region, 18 regulated child care providers receive the benefits of a Child Care Health Consultant as a result of their participation in *Quality First*. This proposed expansion will make CCHC available to an additional 30 early care and education programs not enrolled in *Quality First*. The additional Child Care Health Consultant will result in more than 50% of the regulated centers and homes in the region having access to this service.

CCHC is a proven practice. More than 21 published studies and 58 additional evaluations validate the impact of CCHC on early childhood programs.

<b>Goals:</b> FTF will improve access to quality early care and education programs and settings. FTF will advocate for timely and adequate services for children identified through early screening.			
<b>Key Measures:</b> Number and percentage of early care and education programs with access to a Child Care Health Consultant.			
<b>Target Population (Description of the population to reach):</b> Early Care and Education providers not participating in <i>Quality First</i> .			
Proposed Service Numbers	SFY2010 July 1, 2009 - June 30, 2010	SFY2011 July 1, 2010 – June 30, 2011	SFY2012 July 1, 2011 - June 30, 2012
	30 providers	30 providers	30 providers
<b>Performance Measures SFY 2010-2012</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Number of child care homes and centers receiving a visit from a Child Care Health Consultant.</li><li>• Number of accidents or injuries in regulated child care centers or homes in the region.</li><li>• Number of infectious disease outbreaks in regulated child care centers or homes.</li><li>• % of children enrolled in child care centers or homes in the region having health insurance.</li><li>• Number of participants attending Child Care Health Consultant community-based training.</li></ul>			
<b>How this strategy builds on the service network that currently exists:</b> This strategy capitalizes on the Statewide Initiative for Child Care Health Consultation. The Regional Council will build on the infrastructure elements established by the FTF Board with <i>Quality First</i> and CCHC to improve the quality of early care and education in the La Paz/Mohave region.			
<b>Opportunities for collaboration and alignment:</b> Statewide funding for Child Care Health Consultation will provide the system infrastructure to implement this strategy including an administrative home, and training and supervision of staff. Regional Council participation with the administrative agent will provide the financing for additional Child Care Health Consultants to support to centers and homes not participating in <i>Quality First</i> .			
<b>SFY2010 Expenditure Plan for Proposed Strategy</b>			
Population-based Allocation for strategy	\$120,000		
<b>Budget Justification:</b> FTF has estimated the cost for CCHC salary, ERE and administrative cost at \$120,000 per full-time equivalent. Each FTE can carry a caseload estimate of 30 centers or homes. The La Paz/Mohave Regional Council has allocated funding for one additional full-time CCHC through this strategy.			



## FIRST THINGS FIRST

4000 North Central Avenue, Suite 800  
Phoenix, Arizona 85012  
Phone: 602.771.5100  
Fax: 602.274.7040  
[www.azftrf.gov](http://www.azftrf.gov)

Chair  
Robert Donofrio

Vice Chair  
James Washington

Member  
William Ellert  
Moises Gallegos  
Mauricio Martinez  
Patricia Merk  
Rosalind Polston  
Cindy Segotta-Jones  
Eva Marie Shivers  
Mary Thomson  
Vacant

November 25, 2009

Chairman Lynn and Members of the Board  
First Things First  
4000 N. Central Avenue, Suite 800  
Phoenix, AZ 85012

### **RE: South Phoenix Regional Partnership Council Data Collection and Analysis Strategy**

Dear Chairman Lynn and Members of the Board,

For your review and consideration is a revised Funding Plan strategy that was approved by the South Phoenix Regional Partnership Council at their September 30, 2009 meeting. This award recommendation is in response to the Data Collection and Analysis approved Strategy number Fourteen included in our funding plan.

The South Phoenix Regional Partnership Council has met, considered, and approved the following recommendations as presented by First Things First regional, evaluation, and policy staff. The Council requests your consideration for approval of the following award:

- **\$450,000** to partake in research studies coordinated through the First Things First Evaluation team which include; St. Lukes Health Initiative Survey, Childcare Study and potential analysis for oral health data.

The initial funding period is January 1, 2010– June 30, 2010 with potential carry forward to continue research studies into FY2011.

### **Background**

As stated in South Phoenix Regional Partnership Regional Funding Plan FY 2010, the information on children ages zero through five and their families in the South Phoenix Region is currently very limited. While the Needs and Assets report is an important first step in compiling local data and information, much more information is needed to fully understand the needs of children and families in the region, and the current quality of care and support that they receive.

To maximize the effectiveness of the South Phoenix Regional Partnership Council's efforts, the Regional Council believes there is a need to collect regionally specific data and information to ensure the effective development and implementation of strategies.

To implement this strategy, the South Phoenix Regional Partnership Council

South Phoenix Regional Partnership Council

would follow procurement requirements in addition to coordinating with current First Things First's Evaluation Team efforts to conduct several focused studies. Depending on the nature of the study, the Regional Council may partner with current grantees, especially when such a partnership maximizes the efficiency and effectiveness of conducting such studies—minimizing costs.

Examples of research and evaluation questions the South Phoenix Regional Partnership Council has requested for study are:

- What does home-based care in the region look like? How many (estimate) home-based providers are there? How many children are cared for in such settings? Is such care of high quality? How could such care be improved? What types of training and support do home-based providers seek?
- Why are eligible parents not enrolled in public benefit programs, such as KidsCare or AHCCCS, child care subsidies and other supports? How could barriers best be eliminated?
- How is language and culture affecting the demand for quality early care and education in the region?
- How are the region's early care and education programs interacting with the region's elementary schools? What steps can be taken to ensure that children are ready for Kindergarten?
- What factors affect the demand among parents for high quality early care and education in the region? (e.g. role played by culture, transportation and location, cost, quality, preference, etc.)

To identify parameters for this strategy, a committee was created to define regionally-funded evaluation needs. The chair of the committee, Council Member Dr. Eva Shivers, working in tandem with the FTF staff, has identified several studies currently in development to meet the requests by the South Phoenix Regional Partnership Council to collect and analyze additional data points.

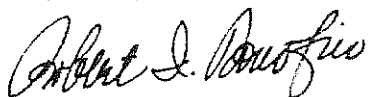
### **Summary of Anticipated Outcomes and Impacts**

It is anticipated the South Phoenix Regional Partnership Council will have received data specific to their requests which will help further their knowledge of the unmet needs and potential assets in the community. Supplied with the new and more detailed data, the council will be armed to make more informed decisions that will better enhance system building and increase efficiencies across programming—especially in the areas of Health, Quality & Access, and Family Support.

The South Phoenix Regional Partnership Council is pleased to offer this recommendation and is confident that the coordination with the First Things First Evaluation Team will ensure that the council members better understand the depth and scope of unmet needs in our community.

Thank you for your consideration.

Respectfully,



Dr. Robert Donofrio, Chair  
South Phoenix Regional Partnership Council I



## FIRST THINGS FIRST

18001 N. 79<sup>th</sup> Ave., Ste. A-6  
Glendale, AZ 85308  
Phone: 602.771.4960  
Fax: 623.486.0557  
www.azftf.gov

Chair  
Jannelle Radocchia

Vice Chair  
Dr. Deborah Pischke

Members  
Judith Brengi  
Patrick Contrades  
Karon Ford  
Margaret Morales  
Kimberly Rimbey  
Dr. Luz Dalia Sanchez  
Cory Underhill  
Darlene Wezdenko

November 20, 2009

Dear Arizona Early Childhood Development and Health Board Members,

The Northwest Maricopa Regional Partnership Council is requesting permission from the Arizona Early Childhood Development and Health Board to shift allocations from approved Strategy #4 (*Professional Development*) to approved Strategy #3 (*Health Promotion and Education*). The requested amount of funding to be moved is \$502,000.

### Approved Funding Plan:

Identified Need	Goal	Key Measures	Strategy / Allocation
<i>Health</i>  Access to adequate health and dental care services, including preventative services, screening services, and follow-up services.	Goal #4: FTF will collaborate with existing Arizona early childhood healthcare systems to improve children's access to quality healthcare. Goal #6: FTF will expand use of early screening in healthcare settings to identify children with developmental delay and other health needs.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Total number and percentage of children receiving appropriate and timely oral health visits.</li><li>• Total number and percentage of children receiving appropriate and timely well-child visits.</li><li>• Ratio of children referred and found eligible for early intervention.</li></ul>	3. Implement, expand, or enhance programs which improve health outcomes of children ages 0-5 years residing in the Northwest Maricopa Region.  Total Allocation: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>\$1,260,000</b><ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>o \$760,000 Health Promotion</li><li>o \$500,000 Developmental Screening</li></ul></li></ul>
<i>Professional Development</i>  Highly skilled and well prepared early childhood development and health workforce.	Goal #8: FTF will build a skilled and well prepared early childhood development and health workforce.  Goal #9: FTF will increase retention of the early care and education workforce.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Total number and percentage of professionals working in early childhood care and education settings with a credential, certificate, or degree in early childhood development.</li><li>• Total number and percentage of professionals working in early childhood care and education who are pursuing a credential, certificate, or degree.</li><li>• Retention rates of early childhood professionals.</li></ul>	4. Provide early childhood development and health professionals working in the Northwest Maricopa Region additional encouragement and opportunities for professional development by providing trainings, scholarships and incentives to individuals pursuing a credential, certificate, or degree in early childhood development or other appropriate specialty area.  Total Allocation: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>\$1,207,000</b><ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>o \$705,000 Early Care and Education Professionals</li><li>o \$502,000 Healthcare Professional Development (funding to be moved)</li></ul></li></ul>



## FIRST THINGS FIRST

18001 N. 79<sup>th</sup> Ave., Ste. A-6  
Glendale, AZ 85308  
Phone: 602.771.4960  
Fax: 623.486.0557  
[www.azftf.gov](http://www.azftf.gov)

In creation of the Northwest Maricopa Regional Partnership Council's 2010 funding plan, the Regional Partnership Council had identified a regional need for increased access to professional development opportunities for healthcare professionals working with children birth through five years of age. To address this need, the Regional Partnership Council allocated \$502,000, for professional development efforts specifically targeting healthcare professionals (Strategy #4). To establish the most efficient way to address the defined need, the Regional Partnership Council established a Health Strategies Subcommittee. The Health Strategies Subcommittee was tasked to assess current conditions related to healthcare professional development and return to the Regional Partnership Council with recommendation. After assessing the capacity of healthcare professionals working in the region, and current available opportunities for healthcare professional development, the Subcommittee established that healthcare professional development was not a regional priority at this time. In addition, taking into consideration the current economic environment, the Subcommittee determined that it would be in the best interest of the children and families residing in the Northwest Maricopa region for the Regional Partnership Council to invest dollars not in professional development, but rather Health Promotion and Education (Strategy #3). Specifically, the Subcommittee found that the greatest health promotion need was in the area of oral health promotion. Oral health was an identified priority during strategic planning; however, due to the broad scope of the Health Promotion and Education RFGA that was released in the spring of 2009, no applicants were funded to conduct oral health promotion within the region.

On November 20, 2009 at the regular Northwest Maricopa Regional Partnership Council Meeting, the Regional Partnership Council approved a motion to move \$502,000 from Strategy #4, Professional Development, to Strategy #3, Health Promotion and Education, with the intent that monies be used specifically to fund oral health promotion and education programs.

At this time, the Northwest Maricopa Regional Partnership Council would like to request that the Arizona Early Childhood Development and Health Board approve the Regional Partnership Council's petition to shift \$502,000 from approved Strategy #4 (*Professional Development*) to approved Strategy #3 (*Health Promotion and Education*) with the intent that the funding will be used to fund programs that address oral health promotion and education.

Sincerely,

  
Jannelle Raddocia, Council Chair  
Northwest Maricopa Regional Partnership Council



## FIRST THINGS FIRST

1979 McCulloch Boulevard, Suite 106  
Lake Havasu City, Arizona 86403  
Phone: 928.854.8732  
Fax: 928.854.8742  
[www.azftf.gov](http://www.azftf.gov)

Chair  
William Allsbrooks

Vice Chair  
Lenore Knudtson

Members  
Alisa Burroughs  
Riley Frei  
Jose Garcia  
Terri Holloway  
Melissa Howell  
Betsy Lewis  
Nancy Mongeau  
Vijette Saari  
Debra Weger

November 25, 2009

Dear Arizona Early Childhood Development and Health Board:

The La Paz/Mohave Regional Partnership Council is pleased to present an increase in regionally-funded Quality First slots for your consideration. The proposed increase would bring the total number of regionally-funded slots from five to 10.

The determination to increase the number of regionally-funded slots was made because the region received 26 applications for eight state-funded slots in the first round of selections.

Five regionally-funded slots were approved in our original SFY 2010 Regional Funding Plan on December 2, 2008. The intent with these slots is to allow centers and homes who receive grants through our Strategy 1a – Planning, Access and Quality Grants to also enroll in Quality First. This will support our grantees to continue to move toward providing better quality care.

These five regionally-funded slots have not yet been released. The contract with the administrative home for the Planning, Access and Quality Grants (the Association for Supportive Child Care) just began on Sept. 1, 2009. It is anticipated the awards will be made in January and February of 2010. Five Quality First slots will be offered to grantees at that time.

If approved, five more regionally-funded slots would be released immediately and selected from the existing pool of applicants. This would bring the total number of Quality First sites in the region from eight (all state-funded) to 13. Once the remaining five regionally-funded slots are released, there will be a total of 18 Quality First sites in the La Paz/Mohave region. Eight of these would be provided through state-wide funds and 10 through regional funds.

An increase of \$150,000 to Quality First was unanimously approved by the Regional Council on September 24, 2009. The La Paz/Mohave Regional Partnership Council believes there is sufficient demand for Quality First expansion in the region. With this strategy, we hope to support more of our early care and education providers in the region to move toward providing higher quality care.

Sincerely,

William Allsbrooks, Chair  
La Paz/Mohave Regional Partnership Council



## FIRST THINGS FIRST

1600 East Ash Street, Suite 1  
Globe, Arizona 85501  
Phone: 928.425.8172  
Fax: 928.425.3129  
[www.azflf.gov](http://www.azflf.gov)

Chair  
Catherine Steele

Vice Chair  
David Reede

Members  
William Belvado  
Angelina Burgett  
Fred Ferreira  
Mitch Hoffman  
Janell McIntosh  
Robert Olivar Sr.  
Vernon Poncho  
Delphine Rodriguez  
La Toya Tewawina

November 20, 2009

Mr. Chairman and Members of the Board  
First Things First  
4000 N. Central Avenue, Suite 800  
Phoenix, AZ 85012

RE: San Carlos Apache Regional Partnership Council Collaboration Strategy

Dear Mr. Chairman and Members of the Board:

The San Carlos Apache Regional Partnership Council is pleased to present our updated Coordination strategy for your consideration. This strategy is from our SFY 2010 Funding Plan presented to you at the State board meeting on December 4, 2008 and approved as an unfunded strategy.

The San Carlos Apache Regional Partnership Council convened for a special meeting on November 2, 2009 to discuss the status of regional strategy two, Early Childhood Development and Health Collaborative and strategy four, Public Awareness and Career Recruitment Campaign. The Regional Council remains committed to supporting the Early Childhood Development and Health Collaborative to serve as a consistent source of support for the region's budding early childhood development system. However, to enhance the work of the Early Childhood Development and Health Collaborative, the San Carlos Apache Regional Partnership Council took action to integrate the intent and efforts of the Public Awareness and Career Recruitment Campaign under the umbrella of the Early Childhood Development and Health Collaborative strategy. The San Carlos Apache Regional Council acknowledges that the fusion of these strategies will increase the opportunities for all community partners to network and benefit from joint technical assistance, advocacy, professional development, and program and fund development for the benefit of the children of the San Carlos Apache Region.

We are pleased to submit the following strategy for your consideration:  
**Coordinated efforts among early childhood service providers to provide for enhanced, effective, and collaborative family support and health services and increased public awareness of early childhood issues, First Things First and career opportunities by:**

- a. Establishing and facilitating an Early Childhood Development and Health Collaborative
- b. Establishing and implementing a public awareness campaign
- c. Establishing and implementing a career and recruitment campaign

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

*Catherine Steele*

Catherine Steele, Chair

San Carlos Apache Regional Partnership Council



### **Strategy 2a: San Carlos Apache Early Childhood Development and Health Collaborative**

**The goal of the Early Childhood Development and Health Collaborative is to ensure that all families in the San Carlos region have the information and support they need to be effective parents by creating a coordinated network of services. Currently, the San Carlos community has no mechanism to identify and address gaps in service, reduce duplication, provide community awareness or to ensure that families are referred to the services that best fit their needs.**

During the process of formulating the San Carlos Apache Regional Needs and Assets Report, it became apparent from the lack of data and/or access to such data, that no cross-tribal, state and federal program coordination efforts were in place to expand or enhance the coordination and integration of regional data, programs, services and resources for young children and their families. The absence of such a mechanism was also evident during the dialogue of the community discussions hosted by the San Carlos Apache Regional Partnership Council. In a community wide discussion, the participants of the group identified tribal programs and resources as strengths. However, the lack of partnerships and coordination across programs for children and families was identified as one of the top four weaknesses in the region.

Research demonstrates that early childhood coalitions linking local, tribal, federal and state partners have made great impacts on policy and funding for early care and health issues. This is best demonstrated by the work of the New Jersey State Better Baby Campaign. Additionally, the formation of coalitions increases the opportunity for all partners to network and reap the benefits of technical assistance, advocacy, professional development, and program and fund development. It is the intent of the San Carlos Apache Regional Partnership Council to mirror the success of such a campaign to benefit the children of the San Carlos region.

The Collaborative Initiative will allow a seamless cross-coordination system among the various programs and departments in the San Carlos Apache community that supports the safe and healthy development of children birth through five. Stakeholders from the San Carlos Apache Tribe and other local department and agencies would meet to develop a cross system/ service Coordination plan, which will ensure appropriate service delivery across early childhood systems in the San Carlos Apache Region. The Collaborative will provide:

- Consistently scheduled and facilitated collaborative meetings; this strategy will create numerous opportunities for providers to collaborate.
- Forums for service providers to share information, reduce duplication, maximize resources, and address service gaps.
- Structure and support for the development of a service network where one currently does not exist.
- Improve the availability of services.
- Maximize effectiveness of service delivery.

To enhance the work of the Collaborative, the San Carlos Apache Regional Partnership Council will integrate the following components:

## **2b. Public Awareness Campaign**

With staff support from First Things First, the San Carlos Apache Regional Office and the San Carlos Apache Regional Partnership Council will expand the availability of resource information to the public. This approach will include the following activities:

- Provide information to the community and service providers about First Things First,
- Collect information about programs and services that are available for families with young children,
- Develop and maintain an early childhood resource data base, including a community newsletter and calendar on early childhood issues and events in the San Carlos Apache community.
- Develop additional distribution formats and methods to include: print, television and radio.

## **2c. Career Recruitment Campaign**

The San Carlos Apache Regional Partnership Council, through the Collaborative, will also create and implement an early childhood development and health career recruitment campaign. The campaign will include the following elements:

- Early Childhood Professional Careers brochures
- Information identifying Early Care and Education and Health Profession Credentials
- Direct mailings targeting high school and college students
- Early Childhood Career Conferences, Fairs, and Events
- Early Childhood Newsletter development
- Television and Print Media Techniques

It is also envisioned that within the Collaborative there will be sub-committees to address service coordination within particular service sectors. The San Carlos Apache Regional Partnership Council intends for this collaborative to be a three year project. In years two and three this collaborative will develop and maintain a tribal wide resource dissemination center on regional early childhood issues.

The San Carlos Early Childhood and Health Collaborative will meet at least quarterly. The Collaborative will be charged with making a report to the San Carlos Apache Regional Partnership Council within 6 months and annually thereafter of the existing family support services, gaps in service (taking into consideration availability of services by location and to all target populations) and recommended improvement strategies.

### **Research Notes:**

(2008) Literacy Powerline "Coalition Fact Sheet" <http://www.literacypowerline.com/faq.html>

(2007) Zero to Three Policy Center "Moving the Infant-Toddler Policy Agenda Forward Together: Strategies to build Successful Coalitions" <http://www.zerotothree.org/site/DocServer/CoalitionBuilding.pdf?docID=4421>

(2004) Campaign New Jersey "Better Baby Care-Building the Foundation" Annual Report

(2008) Success by 6! "Cherish Every Child Public Awareness and Involvement Campaign" [http://cherisheverychild.org/home/sb6/aboutus/strategies\\_aboutus.html](http://cherisheverychild.org/home/sb6/aboutus/strategies_aboutus.html)

(2001) North Carolina Center for Nursing: The Power to Make a Difference Campaign <http://www.nccenterfornursing.org/recruitmentandretention/youth/resourcescampaign.htm>

**Lead Goal 13:** First Things First will lead cross-system coordination efforts among state, federal and tribal organizations to improve the coordination and integration of Arizona programs, services, and resources for young children and their families.

**Goal 11:** First Things First will coordinate and integrate with existing education and information systems to expand families' access to high quality, diverse and relevant information and resources to support their child's optimal development.

**Goal 14:** First Things First will collect and disseminate accurate and relevant data related to early childhood development and health.

**Goal 15:** First Things First will expand public awareness of and financial and political support for, early childhood development and health efforts in Arizona.

**Goal 8:** First Things First will build a skilled and well prepared early childhood development workforce.

**Key Measures:**

1. Total number and percentage of public and private partners who report they are satisfied with the extent and quality of coordination between public, private, and tribal systems.
2. Percentage of Arizonans who report that early childhood development and health issues are important
  1. Percentage of families with children birth through age five who report they are satisfied with the accessibility of information and resources on child development and health
4. Total number and percentage of professionals working in early childhood care and education setting with credential, certificate, or degree in early childhood development
5. Total number and percentage of professionals working early childhood care and education that are pursuing a credential, certificate, or degree

**Target Population:**

Families, family support agencies and programs, including parenting education programs, home visiting programs and child care providers.

	<b>SFY2010</b> July 1, 2009 - June 30, 2010	<b>SFY2011</b> July 1, 2010 - June 30, 2011	<b>SFY2012</b> July 1, 2011 - June 30, 2012
<b>Proposed Service Numbers</b>	6 participating organizations  2 individuals to enter into the early childhood field	10 participating organizations  Implement resource dissemination center  4 individuals to	All applicable tribal and local organizations participating  Maintain resource dissemination center

		enter into the early childhood field	8 individuals to enter into the early childhood field
<b>Performance Measures SFY 2010-2012:</b> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Number of partners satisfied with quality of coordination</li> <li>2. Number of partners able to appropriately refer families to services</li> <li>3. Quarterly meetings</li> <li>4. Newsletter produced and distributed</li> <li>5. Percent of families reporting an increase in knowledge and satisfaction with level of coordination</li> <li>6. Percent of collaborating members / stakeholders reporting satisfaction with level of coordination</li> <li>7. Number and percent of professionals working in early care and education pursuing a degree in early childhood over a three year period</li> <li>8. Number of professionals with degree in early childhood education over a three year period</li> </ol>			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• How is this strategy building on the service network that currently exists?</li> </ul> <p>Currently most family support programs in the region operate independently. While there are many excellent programs, there is no coordinated service network. This strategy will develop a service network where one currently does not exist.</p> <p>Furthermore, there are many excellent programs available to families with young children in the San Carlos Apache Region. However, families and service providers lack easy access to information about these programs and services. This strategy will support the existing service network by providing the community with accurate information about their programs. It will also be an asset to service providers who need access to information about available services. It will also build on efforts already underway to improve information and referral systems in the region. The awareness campaign will provide an opportunity to use existing information centers such as the San Carlos Apache Telecommunications company for education purposes through the use of public service announcements. Finally, this strategy will also build upon the programs established for early childhood development at the local colleges and universities to deliver the courses needed for scholars to complete their educational goals.</p>			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• What are the opportunities for collaboration and alignment?</li> </ul> <p>By providing consistently scheduled and facilitated Collaborative and Coalition meetings, this strategy will create numerous opportunities for participants to collaborate. The meetings will provide the forum for service providers to share information, reduce duplication, maximize resources, and address service gaps. Recipients of First Things First funding to provide family support programs will be required to participate in the Family Support Collaborative.</p> <p>Additionally, this strategy will mobilize the current early child service programs such as the Woman, Infant and Children's Program, the Apache Kid Care, Head Start, and the Boys and Girls Club to join forces through the development of a clear and concise message about the importance of issues relating to early education and health for children. This strategy will also allow for collaboration with the local colleges regarding the curriculum and courses offered through their early childhood development programs. Overall, this strategy will increase communication and strengthen partnerships across all entities of the Tribe.</p>			

<b>SFY2010 Expenditure Plan for Proposed Strategy (How much of the total allocation will go to this strategy)</b>	
Population-based Allocation for proposed strategy	\$ 11,000
<p><b>Budget Justification:</b> Staffing to support the quarterly Collaborative meetings will come from the First Things First San Carlos Apache Regional Office staff. Support will also be provided to Coalition meetings during the start-up phase, with the goal of transitioning Coalition operations to their membership.</p> <p>The allocation of \$11,000 is for activities associated with the two integrated components of Public Awareness and Career Recruitment for items such as brochures, education materials, direct mail, conferences, events, newsletter development, &amp; print, radio, newspaper ads, travel.</p> <p>Public Awareness Campaign=\$5,500</p> <p>Career Recruitment Campaign=\$5,500</p>	



## FIRST THINGS FIRST

601 West Riverside Drive, Suite 8  
Parker, Arizona 85344  
Phone: 928.669.2473  
Fax: 928.669.2607  
[www.azfff.gov](http://www.azfff.gov)

Chair  
Veronica Homer

Vice Chair  
James "Dan" Wolfe

Member  
Irma Alvarado  
Amelia Flores  
Gloria Flores-Lopez  
Rachel Garcia  
Delores Lelvas  
Mervin Scott Jr.  
Amanda Sharpe  
Elizabeth Heather Wilson

October 28, 2009

First Things First  
Arizona Early Childhood Development Health Board  
4000 North Central Avenue  
Phoenix, Arizona 85014

Dear Members of the Board:

On behalf of the Colorado River Indian Tribes (CRIT) Regional Partnership Council, please accept this letter of recommendation for approval of an increase to two existing CRIT regional strategies. At its October 27, 2009 meeting, the Regional Council took action to allocate the remaining 2009 – 2010 Frontier Adjustment Funds in the amount of \$7,109 for the following:

- A \$5,000 increase to the #2 Therapist Incentives strategy, from \$11,000 to \$16,000. This increase was based on the \$12,000 - \$25,000 actual competitive costs as stated within the First Things First Health Advisory Committee Health Strategy Recruitment of Therapists Using Financial Incentives document.
- A \$2,109 increase to the #4 Early Literacy Enhancement strategy from \$13,136 to \$15,245. This increase was based on a funded amount which would realistically impact the CRIT Region in the emphasis of Adult Literacy within the Early Literacy strategy.

Thank you for your time and consideration of this recommendation.

Sincerely,

Veronica Homer, Chair  
Colorado River Indian Tribes Regional Partnership Council

CC: Lanna Flood, Regional Coordinator  
Gary Arnold, West Regional Manager  
CRIT Regional Council



## FIRST THINGS FIRST

100 East 24<sup>th</sup> Street, Suite 2  
Yuma, Arizona 85364  
Phone: 928.343.3020  
Fax: 928.343.4710  
[www.azfff.gov](http://www.azfff.gov)

Chair  
Jill McCormick

Vice Chair  
Dr. Michael Reed

Member  
Betty Ekstrom  
Gina Nierenhausen  
LCDR Michael Reed  
Maria Cristina Solorzano  
Paul Soto  
Monica Torres  
Vacant  
Vacant  
Vacant

November 16, 2009

Arizona Early Childhood Development and Health Board  
4000 N Central Ave. Suite 800  
Phoenix, AZ 85012

Re: Comprehensive Family Support Strategy

Dear Chair Lynn and First Things First Board Members:

The Cocopah Tribe Regional Partnership Council is very excited about the Grant Agreement with the Cocopah Indian Tribe for a comprehensive family support program, called Early Steps. Our excitement concerning the success of this program, which will account for almost 88% of the region's total allocation, for the Cocopah children has prompted this letter to you.

The Cocopah Tribe Regional Partnership Council has identified a need for additional development and training of the region's family support staff and for supplementary professional resources to assist families in the region. The Regional Partnership Council further recognizes that parent trainings related to specific topics may require facilitation by a trainer who is specialized in the topic area(s). Additionally, the mandatory cross-regional and statewide grantee coordination activities are not allowed for in the existing Grant Agreement Budget for the Cocopah Indian Tribe's Early Steps Program.

Therefore, the Regional Partnership Council is requesting the Board's approval to allocate an additional \$7,769 to the Grant Agreement supporting the Early Steps Program.

Sincerely,

H. Jill McCormick  
Chair  
Cocopah Tribe Regional Partnership Council